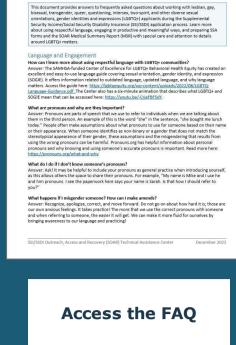


January 2023

2023 SAMHSA SOAR JANUARY E-NEWS

Frequently Asked Questions for Assisting LGBTQ+ Individuals With SSI/SSDI Applications

Check out our newly released resource, Frequently Asked Questions for Assisting LGBTQ+ Individuals with SSI/SSDI Applications. This document provides answers to frequently asked questions about working with applicants who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, intersex, two-spirit, or other diverse sexual orientations or gender identities and expressions (LGBTQ+) during the Supplemental Security Income/Social Security Disability Insurance (SSI/SSDI) application process. Learn more about using respectful language, engaging in productive and meaningful ways, and preparing Social Security Administration (SSA) forms and the SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) Medical Summary Report (MSR) with special care and attention to details around LGBTQ+ matters. **SAMHSA**



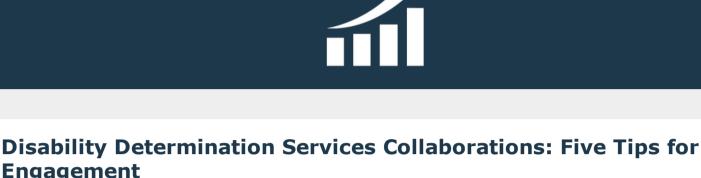
Mid-Year Outcomes Reporting Check-In

Engagement

January Spotlights

outcomes are up to date and that your fellow SOAR case workers have entered their outcomes in the Online Application Tracking (OAT) system. Help keep each other accountable. Log in to OAT today!

You've seen the outcomes from 2022, and they look great! Let's see those numbers go up in 2023! We are already halfway through the outcomes reporting season. Now is a great time to make sure that your



days to decisions for submitted SOAR applications. State Disability Determination Services (DDS) agencies have faced challenges that impact processing times, and many SOAR providers across the country have expressed interest in establishing stronger relationships with DDS partners. Stronger partnerships help SOAR

providers to understand these challenges and facilitate a mutually beneficial working relationship to alleviate some of the burdens that DDS is facing. **Keep Reading**

Due to the residual impact of COVID-19 and staffing shortages, it is not uncommon to experience delays in

See How SOAR Works



opportunity to share the Applicant Self-Help Guide. The guide provides a step-by-step overview of the SSI/SSDI application process and walks applicants through submitting an application. The guide is also available in Spanish and provides helpful information to assist applicants who are applying for benefits

outside of the SOAR process.



February 14, 2023, 1:00-2:00 p.m. ET

SOARing Over Lunch Conference Call

January 10, 2023, 1:00-2:00 p.m. ET

Sharing Our Successes

This month's SOAR success comes from Stacie Mattson, a SOAR-trained practitioner working with the Sault

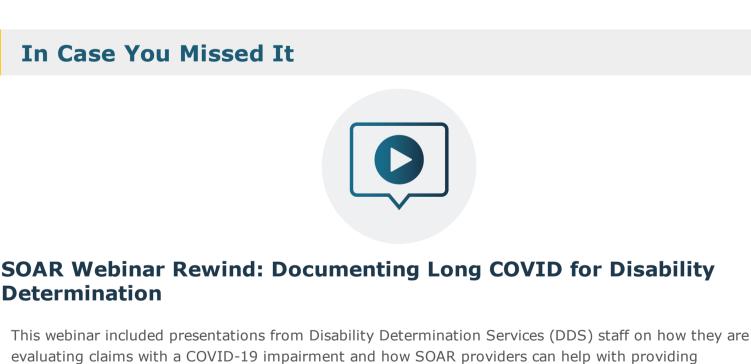
I was contacted by a tribal member's sister, who had become his caretaker since the passing of their mother. Her brother, John, has special needs but was previously denied disability. She asked me to assist them in

Add February SOARing Over Lunch to Your Calendar

Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

reapplying for benefits.

Read the Rest



documentation, including both physical and mental health symptoms. We also heard from a SOAR Provider and a SOAR Beneficiary about their experiences documenting and being awarded disability benefits due to the impact of long COVID. Finally, panelists shared information on how SOAR practitioners can identify and

can help the DDS examiners connect the dots.

Determination

In Case You Missed It

Access the Recording and Slides

address issues related to long COVID, including barriers to treatment and symptoms documentation so they

SOAR Jobs

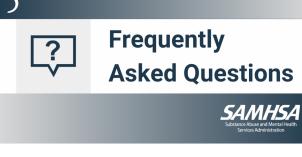


- Florida: RiteLife Services, Inc. is seeking a full-time SOAR Specialist. **New Mexico:** Heading Home is seeking a full-time SOAR Specialist.
- share with the SOAR community? Please submit it to the SAMHSA SOAR TA Center!

Learn more about these positions on the SOARWorks website. Do you have a job posting you would like to

More From SOAR





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